THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The impact of the increased price of indigenous newsprint on the Newspaper industry has been to the extent the newspaper industry consumes the indigenous newsprint.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) There is, at present, no statutory control over the prices of indigenous newsprint. However, any revision in the price of indigenous newsprint is kept under ex-post periodic review by Government.

Steps to Standardise Computer Training and Education

4963. SHRI RAM NARESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to standardise and regulate computer training and education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of India, Department of Electronics vide Resolution, dated 16th August, 1990, have announced a scheme under which private sector computer training institutes meeting the defined quality and service standards would be given accreditation for conducting certain specified courses viz. O(Foundation), A(Advance Diploma), B(Graduate) and C(Post-Graduate) levels computer courses.

(c) Does not arise.

Fresh Recruitment under Barred Categories in Central Government/Public Undertakings for SCs/STs

4964. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make fresh recruitment of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes under barred categories in the Central Government offices and Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) the employment provided to SCs/STs and other backward classes under reserved quota in the Central Government offices/Public Sector Undertakings separately during the last three years, year-wise and the vacancies likely to be available for these reserved categories during the next three years; and

(c) the special facilities proposed to be provided to SCs/STs and other backward classes youth to compete for technical and administrative services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c). The process of filling-up vacancies including reserved vacancies in various Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings is an ongoing process. In each recruitment exercise, efforts are made to appoint SC/ST persons against their reserved share in all categories of posts to which reservation apply. Special Recruitment Drives have also been resorted to appoint SC/ST candidates to clear the backlog of vacancies reserved for them.

The employment provided to SC/ST persons in the Central Government/Public Sector Undertakings for the years 1987, 88 and 89 is indicated below: